

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

Noriko ITANI

Serial No. 09/826,915

Group Art Unit: 2178

Confirmation No. 6536

Filed: April 6, 2001

Examiner: Stork, Kyle R.

For: STRUCTURED DOCUMENT COMPRESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD, RECORD MEDIUM IN WHICH A STRUCTURED DOCUMENT COMPRESSING PROGRAM IS STORED, STRUCTURED DOCUMENT DECOMPRESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD, RECORD MEDIUM IN WHICH A STRUCTURED DOCUMENT DECOMPRESSING PROGRAM IS STORED, AND STRUCTURED DOCUMENT PROCESSING SYSTEM

**REPLY BRIEF TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER**

**UNDER 37 CFR 41.41**

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This is a reply brief to the Examiner's Answer mailed May 12, 2008. This reply brief is timely filed on July 14, 2008 (July 12, 2008 falling on a Saturday) within two month from the date of the Examiner's answer.

**I. Status of Claims**

Claims 1-27 are currently pending. Claims 1-27 stand finally rejected in the Final Office Action mailed July 16, 2007 and are being appealed.

**II. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal**

A. Claims 1-6 and 11-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,635,088 issued to Hind et al. (hereinafter "Hind") in view of U.S. Patent 7,043686 issued to Maruyama et al. (hereinafter "Maruyama").

B. Claim 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hind and Maruyama, in further view of Motoyama (US Patent no. 5,504,891) and U.S. Patent 5,999,929 issued to Goodman.

### III. Arguments

The independent claims are 1, 3-4, 11-19 and 22-27.

Allowance of independent claims 1 and 3 is requested. The Examiner Answer, page 14, alleges that Hind discloses conversion of an <order> tag into a short tag of <A>, and in a case where all the tags of the structured document are <order> tags, they are converted into a single kind of short tag of <A>, and in a case where all the tags of the structured document are <order> tags, they are converted into a single kind of short tag of <A>. However, Hind associates one kind of tag with one kind of short tag. The Examiner is alleging a circumstance that when Hind's structured document has a single kind of tag pair, Hind would be similar to the claimed invention. Thus, allowance of claim 1 is requested, because the claimed embodiments are not limited to structured documents including a single kind of tag, but the claimed embodiments are directed to structured documents including a plurality of kinds of tags. The preamble of the claims could be amended to expressly recite a structured document including a plurality of kinds of markup tags, however, it is submitted the language of the claims speaks for itself, namely claim 1 "obtaining **only one tag list**, common to said **plural structured documents, that lists start markup tags and end markup tags in the order that they appear in the structured documents**," clearly conveys to one skilled in the art that the claims are directed to a plurality of structured documents, each structured document having a plurality of start-end markup tag pairs, and "**all tags in said plural structured documents**" are **replaced with "a single predetermined delimiter code."** And claim 3 provides "detecting **each start markup tag and end markup tag** in individual said **plurality of structured documents**; and **replacing each start markup tag and end markup tag ... with said predetermined delimiter code.**"

Allowance of independent claims 4, 11-19 and 22-27 is requested, because using claim 11 as an example, they substantially are related to (e.g., decompressing) and/or require the limitations "obtaining only one tag list, common to **said plural structured documents**, that lists **start markup tags and end markup tags in the order that they appear in the structured documents**, by removing element contents from the common data structure; **replacing each of said start markup tags and end markup tags** in individual said plural structured documents that correspond to the tag list in said plural structured documents **with a single predetermined**

**delimiter code**, to generate a plurality of compressed documents comprising predetermined delimiter codes and element contents."

So the language of the claims provide a plurality of start markup-end markup tag pairs, each tag pair being replaced by a single delimiter code. A benefit of the claimed embodiments is eliminating the necessity of managing which tag is replaced with which short tag, obviating Hind's tag table. So the present invention realizes compression of the structured document more easily while saving the calculation cost and memory.

Maruyama FIG. 5-6 is relied upon for allegedly disclosing extracting a common data structure, which is silent on the claimed delimiter based compression of structured documents. Furthermore, Maruyama column 7, line 26-36 discusses replacing the character strings that correspond to the contents of the XML document in FIG. 4 with place holders, however, the language of the claims provides "obtaining **only one tag list, common to said plural structured documents**," so in other words Maruyama fails to disclose expressly or implicitly the claimed one tag list for two or more plural structured documents are obtained.

A prima facie case of obviousness based upon Hind and Maruyama cannot be established, because there is no evidence expressly or implicitly to one skilled in the art to combine Maruyama's replacement of XML character strings with place holders, which is silent on any delimiter based compression, with Hind's association of one kind of tag with one kind of short tag, which requires a tag map table, and then further modify Hind and/or Maruyama to eliminate the tag map table by providing the claimed "obtaining **only one tag list, common to said plural structured documents, that lists start markup tags and end markup tags in the order that they appear in the structured documents, ... replacing all tags in said plural structured documents with a single predetermined delimiter code**, generating a plurality of compressed documents comprising element contents and predetermined delimiter codes."

Reversal of the Examiner rejections and allowance of claims is requested.

If there are any fees associated with filing of this reply, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Date: July 14, 2008

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